



PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Beger, et al. ) Examiner: A. Ramana  
)  
Serial No.: 10/763,961 ) Art Unit: 3732  
)  
Filed: January 23, 2004 )  
)

For: **LOCKING MECHANISM FOR A BONE SCREW**

MAIL STOP RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: December 2, 2005.

Signature: Carol Prentice  
Carol Prentice

**AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the final Office Action mailed on September 29, 2005. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is being filed simultaneously herewith. Please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.